

CITY OF CHAMBLEE, GA
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
April 14, 2011

Mayor Eric Clarkson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Councilmembers present were: Mr. Tom Hogan, Ms. Leslie Robson, Mr. Scott Taylor, Mr. Mark Wedge, and Mr. Dan Zanger.

Staff members present were: Mr. Marc Johnson, Acting City Manager/Police Chief; Mr. Tillman Hannon, Public Works Director; Mr. Joel Holmes, Director of Parks & Recreation; and Mrs. Nancy Williams, City Clerk.

ACCOUNCEMENTS and PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Clarkson announced that a public hearing for a variance request from the Acura Dealership located at 5700 Peachtree Blvd will be held at the regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 19, 2011.

A presentation from the CDC concerning projects in the City of Chamblee was postponed until next month.

Mr. Hogan made a motion to suspend the rules and rearrange the agenda to move item 5.A.1. to the beginning of the agenda so the City Council could hear a presentation about human cremation. Ms. Robson seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mr. Wedge and Mr. Taylor voting in opposition.

1. Presentation – Human Cremation Process - Mr. Steve Rohleder, F.C. Industries, presented the City Council with written material about the process of human cremation. He said the process for cremating pets was the same process used for cremating humans and had the same impact on the environment. He said the Pet Crematorium, located at 4991 Peachtree Road already had the equipment necessary to perform human cremation.

Upon completion of the presentation, Mayor Clarkson explained that human cremation was not an allowed zoning use in the City and a public hearing would need to be held before the City Council could consider amending the zoning ordinance. Someone from the audience asked the Mayor if they could address the Council to make a comment about human cremation. The Mayor said he would allow public comments. The following people addressed the City Council and voiced their objection to human cremation in the City:

Noam Ayal, Loveland Terrace; Bruce Rhodes, Wingate Road; Dee Bradford Smith, Clairwood Terrace; John Bradford, Keswick Drive; Donna McDonald, Clairwood Terrace; and Angela Stewart, Malone Drive.

Mr. Tom Scott, Seaman Circle and Mr. Charlie Rudd, Admiral Drive, said they did not have any objections to having human cremation in the City.

STAFF ITEMS:

City Clerk:

1. **Approval of Minutes – March 10, 2011 – Public Hearing and Work Session**
2. **Approval of Minutes – March 15, 2011 – Regular City Council Meeting**

There were no changes requested. The minutes will be submitted for adoption at the meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.

City Manager:

1. **Speed Limit Resolution to add Savoy Drive back to the list** - The City Council will take action on this item at the meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.
2. **RFP's for Marketing & Communication** – Ms. Robson said she would like to postpone this item so the committee could agree on four proposals to bring before the City Council. The City Council will take action on this item at the meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.
3. **Review of Quarterly Financial Statements – 4th Qtr 2010 & 1st Qtr 2011** – Chief Johnson presented the quarterly financial statements to the City Council. The City Council will take action to approve these reports at the meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.
4. **Adoption of DeKalb County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan** - Chief Johnson explained that DeKalb County had updated the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, which focuses on actions that can be taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term effects of disasters. Jurisdictions that have a hazard mitigation plan are eligible for grants through the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management agency (FEMA). He recommended the City Council approve the plan at the regular meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.
5. **Shared Parking Agreement for 3514 Broad Street** – Chief Johnson explained that the building located next door to the Police Department was being remodeled by the new owners for use as office space. The zoning ordinance requires that they have seven parking spaces and install streetscape in front of the building. He recommended Council consider approving a shared parking agreement with the owner of 3514 Broad Street. The City Council will take action on this item at the regular meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.

Development Director:

1. **Discussion and approval of streetscape for 3514 Broad Street** – Chief Johnson said the owner of 3514 Broad Street was prepared to comply with the City's zoning ordinance and

install the streetscape. Chief Johnson asked the City Council to consider whether the typical streetscape would be appropriate for this section of Broad Street. The City Council will take action on this item at the regular meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.

2. Storm Water Management Post-Development Maintenance Bonds – Chief Johnson recommended the City Council consider changing the City's Development Regulations that require a three-year stormwater maintenance bond before a certificate of occupancy can be issued. He said three-year bonds were difficult, if not impossible, to obtain. There will be a first reading of the proposed ordinance amendment at the meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.

3. Adoption of New Zoning Map Which Combines Recently Annexed Area with Existing Area - Chief Johnson recommended the City Council approve a new zoning map which combines the newly annexed area of the City with the existing area. There were no other changes made to the map or to the zoning classifications of any parcels. There will be a first reading of the proposed ordinance amendment at the meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.

4. Corrections to Soil & Erosion Control Ordinance – Chief Johnson said that during the review of the recently adopted Soil & Erosion Control Ordinance, the City Attorney discovered a few mistakes that needed to be corrected. There will be a first reading of the proposed ordinance amendment at the meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.

5. Variance Request from the Acura Dealership located at 5700 Peachtree Blvd – A public hearing on this item is scheduled for April 19, 2011. The City Council will take action on this item during the regular meeting also scheduled for that day.

6. Update on Current Grants – Chief Johnson provided the City Council with a brief update on the status of the following grants:

- a) Peachtree Road LCI/CDBG Grant
- b) Peachtree Road Streetscape TEA Grant
- c) GEFA Grant with City of Decatur

The City Council may take action on these items at the regular meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.

Public Works

1. Approval of Lease Agreement for Sanitation Truck – Mr. Hannon recommended the City Council approve the purchase of a new 25-yard rear loader garbage truck in the amount of \$152,000 with payments to be spread over a 5-year period. This purchase was in the current budget. The City Council will take action on this item at the regular meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.

Parks and Recreation:

1. Parks and Recreation Program Update – Mr. Holmes gave his presentation on past and current activities in the Parks and Recreation Department. Mr. Zanger said he appreciated the presentation and commended Mr. Holmes on his achievements. He gave Mr. Holmes several suggestions for future programs, including:

1. Establish partnerships with organizations in the community, such as local churches, and Dynamo Swim Club.
2. Reach out to new residents and residents living in the newly annexed area of Chamblee to have more community involvement.
3. Expand advertising efforts.
4. Become more personally visible in the community and attend events.
5. Provide more information about department activities in the weekly reports.

Mr. Wedge suggested adding more activities to the July 4th event.

2. Request to Purchase New Pickup Truck – Mr. Holmes recommended the City Council approve the purchase of a new 2011 Ford F-150 pick-up truck for the Parks and Recreation Department. This expense was not in the current budget and \$16,147 would need to be moved from the Contingency Line Item to the Parks and Recreation Line. The City Council will take action on this item at the meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.

City Attorney:

The City Attorney will read the following at the meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011:

1. 2nd Reading of Purchasing Policy Ordinance
2. 1st Reading of Adoption of New Zoning Map
3. 1st Reading of Corrections to Soil & Erosion Control Ordinance
4. 1st Reading of Changes to Storm Water Maintenance Bond Ordinance

Mayor and City Council Items:

Councilman Tom Hogan

1. Human Cremation – This item was discussed at the beginning of the meeting. Since it was not removed from the agenda, it will be moved to the meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.

Councilwoman Robson

1. Establish Design Criteria for Gravel Driveways – Ms. Robson said she would like staff to prepare an ordinance to provide design criteria for gravel and paved driveways. The City Council will take action on this item at the meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.

Councilman Wedge

1. Pay raise for the Interim City Manager/Chief of Police Marc Johnson for his performance and duty to the City of Chamblee – Mr. Wedge suggested the Council approve a increase for Marc Johnson’s salary. The City Council will take action on this item at the regular meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.

Councilman Zanger

1. Referendum for Sunday Alcohol Sales – Mr. Zanger suggested the City Council adopt a resolution calling for a referendum to allow the voters to decide whether or not to allow Sunday alcohol sales by package retail sellers. The City Council will take action on this item at the regular meeting scheduled for April 19, 2011.

Citizen Comments:

Mr. Charlie Rudd said he felt the Parks Department did a good job and suggested having an article printed in the newspaper to improve citizen participation.

Mr. Robert Holtackers, owner of 3514 Broad Street, said he was excited to move his business to the City of Chamblee and he thanked staff for their support.

Mr. Tom Scott said he was on the Safety Committee with the Huntley Hills Homeowners’ Association. He thanked the city staff for their efforts to control loose dogs in the City. He also hoped that the City would consider installing sidewalks and traffic calming devices in Huntley Hills.

Mayor Clarkson declared the meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Nancy Williams, City Clerk

Attest: _____
Eric Clarkson, Mayor